

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 03397 260858Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AGR-05 ACDA-07
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 COME-00 DLOS-09
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSC-05 NSF-01
OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
/119 W

-----260906Z 121103 /14

O R 260746Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3485

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3397

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS US

SUBJ: ROK-JAPAN CONTINENTAL SHELF; U.S. RELAXATION OF NORTH
KOREA TRAVEL BAN

REFS: (A) SEOUL 3336 (DTG 230316Z APR 77)

(B) SEOUL 3335 (DTG 230315Z APR 77)

SUMMARY: ROKG INITIATES PRESS CAMPAIGN TO PRESSURE JAPANESE
DIET TO RATIFY ROK-JAPAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT.
JAPANESE EMBASSY DISCOMFITED, BUT TRYING TO RIDE OUT THE
STORM. END SUMMARY.

1. ROKG HAS INITIATED NEWSPAPER CAMPAIGN IN CRUDE
EFFORT TO APPLY PRESSURE ON JAPANESE FOR RATIFICATION OF
ROK/JAPAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT. SEOUL PRESS CARRIED
ALARMIST FRONT PAGE STORIES APRIL 23 AND HEADLINE STORIES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 03397 260858Z

MORNING APRIL 24 AND AFTERNOON APRIL 25 FORECASTING VARIOUS
DIRE CONSEQUENCES IF JAPANESE DIET FAILS TO RATIFY
CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT. STORIES CONCENTRATE, INTER ALIA,
ON PRIME MINISTER'S WORKING BREAKFAST MEETING WITH VARIOUS CABINET
MINISTERS APRIL 23 WHICH REPORTEDLY CONCENTRATED ON PREPAR-
ATIONS FOR UNILATERAL ROK OIL EXPLORATION. STORIES ALSO
MENTIONED ACTING FONMIN YUN'S MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR SNEIDER

APRIL 22 (REF A). LEADING INDEPENDENT TONGA ILBO AND OFFICIAL SEOUL SHINMUN CARRIED EDITORIALS AFTERNOON APRIL 25 CALLING ON JAPANESE DIET TO RATIFY CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT. NO EDITORIALS IN APRIL 26 MORNING PAPERS.

2. EMBOFF SPOKE TO MOFA ASIAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR KONG RO-MYUNG APRIL 25 WHO IMPLIED THAT DECISION TO MAKE PUBLIC ISSUE OF JAPANESE CONTINENTAL SHELF RATIFICATION WAS MADE AGAINST HIS OWN ADVICE BY HIS SUPERIORS. BY WAY OF EXPLANATION KONG INDICATED THAT ROKG WAS CONCERNED THAT JAPANESE WERE TAKING CONTINENTAL SHELF ISSUE TOO LIGHTLY AND THAT PART OF CONCERN AROSE FROM FACT THAT OHIRA MASAYOSHI HAD BEEN DELEGATED RESPONSIBILITY BY PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA FOR GETTING CONTINENTAL SHELF RATIFICATION THROUGH DIET. KONG CHARACTERIZED OHIRA AS A MAN WHO IS HARD TO FATHOM AND EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT OHIRA WOULD NOT BE PREPARED TO PUSH AS HARD AS MAY BE REQUIRED TO SECURE RATIFICATION BECAUSE OF WHAT ROKG REGARDS AS UNWARRANTED CONCERN ABOUT OTHER LEGISLATION.

3. JAPANESE EMBASSY POLCOUNS MABUCHI TOLD EMBOFF APRIL 25 HE "FELT LIKE A MAN WHO HAD BEEN SHOT FROM BEHIND" BY ROKG PRESS CAMPAIGN. HE SAID JAPANESE AMBASSADOR NISHIYAMA WAS VERY OFFENDED BY ROKG ACTION BUT SAW NO POINT IN TALKING TO ROKG ABOUT ISSUE (NISHIYAMA WAS SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED IN MORNING APRIL 26 BY FONMIN). MABUCHI SAID HE HAD SPOKEN TO GAIMUSHO NORTHEAST ASIAN DIVISION CHIEF ENDO ON TELEPHONE EARLIER APRIL 25 AND ENDO SAID ROK PRESS CAMPAIGN HAD THUS FAR NOT MADE IMPACT IN JAPAN. ENDO PROFESSED TO BE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF NORTH SEA OIL WELL LEAK ON DIET DEBATE. MABUCHI DID CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SEOUL 03397 260858Z

NOT, BASED ON CONVERSATION WITH ENDO, FEEL THAT DIET SITUATION HAD DETERIORATED APPRECIABLY.

4. PRESS HAS ALSO CARRIED REPORTS, FREQUENTLY IN SAME STORY AS CONTINENTAL SHELF ACCOUNTS, CONCERNING VICE MINISTER YUN'S DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR SNEIDER APRIL 22 ON ANTI-ROK ACTIVITIES IN U.S. THESE STORIES HAVE NOT APPEARED IN ALL PAPERS. THEY ARE COUCHED IN TERMS OF ROKG CONCERN THAT U.S. DECISION TO PERMIT KOREAN RESIDENTS IN U.S. TO TRAVEL TO U.S. WILL SERVE TO SPLIT KOREAN COMMUNITIES IN U.S. AND SAY YUN ASKED THAT USG BE "PRUDENT" CONCERNING THIS QUESTION. SNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONTINENTAL SHELF, POLICIES, PRESS COMMENTS, TREATY RATIFICATION, TRAVEL CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL03397
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770144-1121
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770418/aaaaapeq.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3e871c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SEOUL 3336, 77 SEOUL 3335
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2690524
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROK-JAPAN CONTINENTAL SHELF; U.S. RELAXATION OF NORTH KOREA TRAVEL BAN
TAGS: PFOR, KS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3e871c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009